

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 CIAE-00
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O R 302143Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE
INFO SECDEF
CNO
CHNAVTELCOM
CINCPACFLT
CINCPAC
NAVCOMSTA HAROLD E. HOLT

UNCLAS STATE 136686

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PINT, MARR, AS, US

SUBJECT: QUERY FROM MINDEFENSE KILLEN

REF: CANBERRA 4127

DEFENSE HAS PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN RESPONSE
TO PARAS TWO, THREE, FOUR OF REFTEL:

A. IS SSR-1 AT H.E.HOLT, IF SO WHAT IS ITS PURPOSE AND WHEN
WAS IT EMPLACED AT HEH?

YES. ITS PURPOSE IS AS STATED IN DEFENSE MINISTER KILLEN'S
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LETTER. IT WAS INSTALLED ON 30 JUN 1976. THE AN/SSR-1 IS
NEW EQUIPMENT WHICH PROVIDES THE SAME FUNCTION THAT WAS
PREVIOUSLY PERFORMED BY DIFFERENT EQUIPMENT. ONE MISSION OF
NAVCOMSTA HAROLD E. HOLT HAS BEEN TO PROVIDE HIGH FREQUENCY
RETRANSMISSION OF THE FLEET BROADCAST. IN THE PAST THIS WAS
ACCOMPLISHED BY TRANSMISSION OF THE BROADCAST TO H.E. HOLT
OVER SUBSYSTEMS OF THE DCS.

THE WORLDWIDE U.S. NAVY FLEET BROADCAST WAS CHANGED FROM A
PRIMARILY HF TO A PRIMARILY SATELLITE SYSTEM IN 1976.

IN ORDER TO SATISFY THE CONTINUING REQUIREMENT FOR HF
RETRANSMISSION OF THE FLEET BROADCAST IN THE MOST
EFFICIENT WAY POSSIBLE, THE AN/SSR-1 RECEIVER WAS IN-
STALLED TO RECEIVE THE SATELLITE SIGNAL FOR RETRANSMISSION
ON THE EXISTING HF TRANSMITTERS. THE AN/SSR-1 CONSISTS
OF 2 SMALL UNITS EACH 25 INCHES X 19 INCHES X 8.75 INCHES
IN SIZE AND ASSOCIATED ANTENNAS.

B. IS THERE ANY EVIDENCE THAT THERE WERE ANY DISCUSSIONS
WITH AUST. AUTHORITIES AT THE TECHNICAL LEVEL ABOUT EITHER
THIS EQUIPMENT OR THE FLT COMM SAT SYST IT IS DESIGNED TO
SERVE?

YES. AUST. NAVY IS AWARE OF SSR-1 AT H.E. HOLT.

C. FOR COMNAVCOMSTA H.E. HOLT: CAN AMB ASSURE KILLEN THAT
AUST. DEP COMDR IS AWARE OF THIS EQUIPMENT AND ITS PURPOSES?

YES. HE (DEP CDR) BRIEFED DNC (RAN) ON THIS EQUIPMENT IN
APR. 77.

D. PROVIDE GUIDANCE IN ANSWERING OFFICIAL GOA QUESTIONS
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ABOUT PRESENCE OF NSG AT H.E. HOLT: THERE IS NO NSG
AT H.E. HOLT. THERE ARE NO NSG PEOPLE AT H.E. HOLT. VANCE

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NNN

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